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UPI-251

(POWERS)  
LITTLE ROCK, ARK.--SEN. KARL MUNDT, R-S.D., SAID TODAY THE UNITED STATES "TRADED A BABE RUTH FOR AN UNKNOWN" IN EXCHANGING SOVIET SPY COL. RUDOLPH ABEL FOR U2 PILOT FRANCIS GARY POWERS.  
"WE'D BETTER LEARN SOMETHING FROM POWERS," HE DECLARED, "BECAUSE WE HAVE PAID A PRETTY GOOD PRICE FOR HIM."  
MUNDT, RANKING REPUBLICAN ON THE SENATE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE, SAID IF A BASEBALL TEAM HAD MADE SUCH A DEAL, "WE'D HAVE FIRED THE MANAGER WHO MADE THE TRADE."  
"I THINK POWERS OWES IT TO HIMSELF TO GET HIS SIDE OF THE STORY ON RECORD, ALSO," MUNDT SAID. "WE KNOW A LOT ABOUT ABEL AND LITTLE ABOUT POWERS. WE KNOW ABEL IS A MASTER SPY AND OF GREAT VALUE TO THE RUSSIANS. HE CAN GO INTO LONDON OR TEL AVIV AS AN AGENT FOR RUSSIA AND DAMAGE US."  
MUNDT CONFERRED HERE TODAY WITH EVERETT HAMM, ASSISTANT TO ARKANSAS NATIONAL GOP COMMITTEEMAN WINTHROP ROCKEFELLER, ON THE AGRICULTURAL AND STABILIZATION CONSERVATION SERVICE PROGRAM.

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